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MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors Re: President's budget Da: Monday, April 9, 2001

Sen. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, today made the following comment on President Bush's budget.

"Historically, presidents' budgets have been dead on arrival, but that's not true with this one. It's a blueprint that's survived mostly intact with strong bipartisan support, and that's a major achievement for President Bush. It would be a totally new phenomenon for any president to get everything he wanted. In our system, the president proposes and the Congress disposes. Last week, there was consensus in the Senate for more money for agriculture and Medicare, for example.

"On a more detailed level, I'm pleased that the President's budget outline includes several priorities that I share, including tax credits to encourage the production of electricity from wind and organic materials and a provision to help family farmers better manage risk with tax-deferred farmer savings accounts. I look forward to working toward those and other priorities in the weeks ahead."